

Fiscal Year 2000 Alaska District Success Stories Akutan Naval Station FUDS, Dutch Harbor, Alaska C3 Zone





Above Ground Storage Tank Before Remediation

FUDS PROPERTY NAME: Akutan Naval Station FUDS

FUDS No:

LOCATION: Akutan Island, Alaska

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The former Akutan Naval Station is located on Akutan Island in the Aleutians. The site was used as a whaling station where whales were processed from 1912 to 1939. In 1942 the facility was converted to a Naval station used for refueling, supply and ship repair for vessels operating between the United States and Russia and as an emergency landing site for sea planes during World War II. The site clean up began in early 1996, where 6 AST's, drums, other tanks and debris, batteries etc. along with 7,000 yards of petroleum contaminated soils were

removed. This expedited clean up combined remedial actions with remedial investigations, which ultimately saved \$6M and 5 years of schedule.

In 2000, the USAED preceded with detailed marine sediment sampling and an ecological risk assessment to support final closure of the site with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. This work was conducted in August 2000, and included subtidal and intertidal sediment sampling, groundwater monitoring, biovent system monitoring and optimization studies and participation in public meetings. The work was conducted over a two-week period where the TERC Contractor utilized a vessel to house its field team, regulatory agency personnel and the USAED staff. These vessel living conditions afforded outstanding partnering and interactive planning with the team.

COST SAVINGS

The majority of the cost savings realized this summer were for shared resources with FUDS projects in Dutch Harbor, use of a vessel for transportation and housing and joint coordination with multiple agencies. The initial estimated savings were on the order of \$35,000.

There was major cost avoidance performed on this project through coordination, partnering and negotiations with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation on the scope of the ecological data collection effort in support of the risk assessment. The original scope was to complete a rather detailed dive survey to photograph and collect data off the shore of the former Naval Station. This effort was very costly and included some substantial safety risk to our workers. As a result, the USAED renegotiated the scope of the ecological survey and reduced the costs by \$200,000.

SCHEDULE SAVINGS

The nine-day field project was completed on schedule and on budget. The risk assessment in support of no further action at the Naval Station is currently on track and focused. Excellent relationships formed

with the USAED and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation have helped this project to save costs and stay on track for closure.

OTHER PROJECT SUCCESSES

Major successes on this project in 2000 are primarily the coordination and active participation of the community of Akutan in the final clean up activities. Other successes include use of locals to support the work, leasing of boats and active involvement in community relations. Coordination and sharing of resources with FUDS work in Dutch Harbor and other areas of the Aleutians continues to result in substantial cost savings to this project and other FUDS in the Dutch Harbor C3 Zone.



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PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The public has been actively involved in the clean up program at Akutan since it began in 1996. In 2000, a public meeting was held in August and the community updated on the status of investigations and site closure. Once again, the USAED invited comments on the formation of a Restoration Advisory Board in Akutan, but the community is happy with the current FUDS program approach. One of the successful components of the community relations program in Akutan is the involvement of the community in the clean up. Typically, the project uses local hires to support the fieldwork, sample staging in the village and the field teams stay at the local Inn. The USAED continues to provide a stimulus to the local economy.

NATURE OF SUCCESS

The nature of success on this program is related to partnering with the regulatory agencies, use of shared resources with other FUDS in the area and active community involvement. These successes have resulted in long term savings of \$6M and in 2000 alone, \$200,000 of costs have been avoided and \$35,000 saved.

POINT OF CONTACT

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